

Message Text

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44

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 /148 R

DRAFTED BY EA/LC:JPMURPHY:FMT

APPROVED BY EA - MR. STEARNS

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R 262349Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 212392

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, EAID, LA, CB, AS

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN SUPPORT OF FEOF AND ESF

REF: A. CANBERRA 5697; B. STATE 209719

1. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECY STEARNS REVIEWED FEOF AND ESF ISSUES WITH GOA AMBASSADOR SIR JAMES PLIMSOLL OCTOBER 25 DURING TOUR D'HORIZON OF STEARNS' RECENT TRIP TO INDOCHINA. STEARNS EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR CONTINUED GOA PARTICIPATION (AT 1973 LEVELS OR HIGHER) IN BOTH FUNDS, STRESSING CRITICAL IMPORTANCE NOW FOR RLG AND GKR.

2. FEOF. SIR JAMES WAS SOMEWHAT OPTIMISTIC THAT GOA WOULD PARTICIPATE IN 1974 FEOF PROVIDED REQUEST RECEIVED FROM NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT. HIS RECENT CONVERSATION WITH RLG FINANCE MINISTER SISOUK NA CHAMPASSAK PERSUADED HIM THAT NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD BE FORMED AND WOULD REQUEST GOA CONTRIBUTION. STEARNS NOTED THAT COALITION MAY NOT RPT NOT BE FORMED BEFORE DECISION OF DONORS WAS REQUIRED TO ASSURE FEOF'S CONTINUATION WITH LEAST AMOUNT OF TROUBLE.

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3. ESF. AMBASSADOR PLIMSOLL THOUGHT THAT GOA AGREEMENT TO TAKE PART IN 1974 ESF WOULD BE MORE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN. AUSTRALIA DOUBTED THAT LON NOL WOULD SURVIVE AND WAS RELUCTANT TO INVEST IN ANYONE IN CAMBODIA UNTIL THE COMPOSITION OF A NEW REGIME WAS CLEARED UP. AUSTRALIA

HAD TOLD GKR THAT IT WOULD OPPOSE MOTION IN THE UN TO UNSEAT KHMER REPUBLIC BUT THIS SEEMED THE EXTENT OF ITS DESIRE TO BOLSTER LON NOL. STEARNS REPEATED THE NECESSITY OF SUPPORT FOR THE GKR TO PRODUCE A WORKABLE NEGOTIATED SOLUTION OF CAMBODIAN CONFLICT RATHER THAN AN UNSTABLE IMPOSED ONE.

4. THE AMBASSADOR PROMISED TO REPORT DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS TO CANBERRA AND TO SEE WHAT THEY CAN DO. KISSINGER

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